9th August 1966] [Mr. Speaker]

caused by the expiration of the term of office of Sri M. Subbiah Chettiar and Srimathi S. Manjubashini with effect from the afternoon of 20th April 1966.

1. Sri D. Santosham.
2. Srimathi S. Manjubashini. "

(2) " This House nominates the following one Member of the Council to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Legislative Assembly for the year 1965–66 in the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of Sri S. K. Sambandhan with effect from the afternoon of 20th April 1966 :

Sri A. R. Damodaran. "

VIII.—POINT OF PROPRIETY RE. BREACH OF CONVENTION IN PREMATURE PUBLICATION OF CONTENTS OF NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION IN THE PRESS.

Mr. Speaker : Members are aware that the Hon. Chief Minister raised a matter of breach of convention in that the No-confidence Motion, as well as the text and contents of the motion tabled by the Leader of the Opposition were published in the Press before it was brought before the House for leave being granted. The Leader of the Opposition stated that he was not in any way responsible for the publication of the facts contained in the notice. I take his word and I have nothing to doubt about it.

Before I started an enquiry, the Secretary, Legislative Assembly Department, came forward and informed me that he was met by the Press people on 30th July and that he was responsible for giving out some general information about this motion.

Further, the file is not treated as confidential or secret. As it passed through several persons in the Office, we are not able to fix definitely the person who gave it to the Press, apart from the general information which was, admittedly, given by the Secretary. Now, I have given strict instructions to the Office that hereafter such files should be treated as 'Most Confidential' and that no such lapses should occur again. Therefore, I think that we can leave the matter there.

திரு. கே. ஏ. மதியழகன் : இந்த "மோஷன்" சம்பந்தமாக நம் சீஃப் மினிஸ்டர் அவர்களுடைய அலுவலகத்திற்கும் ஒரு காப்பி அனுப்பப்படுகிறது. அங்கிருந்து எதாவது வெளியே போவதற்கான நிலைமை பற்றியும் செயலாளர் ஆராய்ந்தாரா? அவர்கள் கொடுத்தார்கள் என்று மட்டும் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஒரு காப்பி முதல் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் ஆபீசுக்கும் அனுப்பப்பட்டிருக்கிறது.

MR. SPEAKER : As it is, I have told the House that till now the file on such matters is not treated as confidential or secret. There are several possibilities. There are our typists, there are other typists. We do not know who gave that information. I have not gone into all those things. The Secretary, Legislative Assembly Department, straightforwardly informed me that he gave some general information about the motion to the press inadvertently or lightheartedly when they met him. Therefore, I thought that it was not necessary to go into this matter further. Hereafter, the matter will be treated in a most confidential manner.

12-00 noon SRI K. A. MATHIALAGAN : My point is that a copy is sent to the Hon. Chief Minister. There is a likelihood . . . . .

MR. SPEAKER : I have quite understood the point raised by the hon. Member.

கனம் திரு. எம். பக்தவத்சலம் : நான்தான் பிரச்னையைக் கொண்டு வந்தேன். இதை நான் அலுவலகத்தில் பார்ப்பதற்கு முன்பாகவே பத்திரிகைகளில் பார்த்தேன்.

MR. SPEAKER : The Hon. Chief Minister said that he read all those details in newspapers while he was in Delhi to attend a meeting.

I am unable to find out even small lapses in the Assembly Department. If there are small lapses in the Chief Minister's Department or the office of the Leader of the Opposition, how can I go into them ? I leave it at that. Hereafter, I will see that it is properly done.

VI.—GOVERNMENT BILLS—*cont.*

(5) THE MADRAS MOTOR VEHICLES (TAXATION OF PASSENGERS AND GOODS) AMENDMENT BILL 1966 (L.A. BILL NO. 13 OF 1966).

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, I move—

'That the Madras Motor Vehicles (Taxation of Passengers and Goods) Amendment Bill,[a] 1966 (L.A. Bill No. 13 of 1966) be taken into consideration.'

(MR. Deputy Speaker in the Chair.)

According to the second proviso to section 3 of the Madras Motor Vehicles (Taxation of Passengers and Goods) Act, 1952 (Madras Act XVI of 1952), no tax shall be levied on any passenger, luggage or goods carried by a stage carriage, if the total distance

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a Published in the Fort St. George Gazette Extraordinary, dated 4th August 1966.